

DEC 14 2006

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To: Examiner: Charles A. FOX
MS Amendment - USPTO

From: Scott R. Faber

Fax: 571-273-8900

Pages: 13 (including cover sheet)

Phone:

Date: December 14, 2006

Re: Response to Office Action

cc:

Docket: 2002-030-01

Serial #: 10/687,023

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1. Transmittal Form (PTO/SB/21) (1 page); and
2. Response to Final Office Action (with Replacement Sheet 1 for FIG. 1) (11 pages)

DEC 14 2006


PTO/SB/21 (08-08)


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| | | |
|---|------------------------|------------------|
| TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) | Application Number | 10/687,023 |
| | Filing Date | October 16, 2003 |
| | First Named Inventor | Stanley W. Stone |
| | Art Unit | 3652 |
| | Examiner Name | Charles A. FOX |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission | Attorney Docket Number | 2002-030-01 |

| ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply) | | |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC |
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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition | <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> After Final | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application | <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation | <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | Remarks | |

| SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT | | | |
|--|---|----------|--------|
| Firm Name | Varian Semiconductor Equipment Associates, Inc. | | |
| Signature |  | | |
| Printed name | Scott R. Faber | | |
| Date | Dec. 14, 2006 | Reg. No. | 48,380 |

| CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING | | | |
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| Signature |  | | |
| Typed or printed name | Renee P. Grant | Date | December 14, 2006 |

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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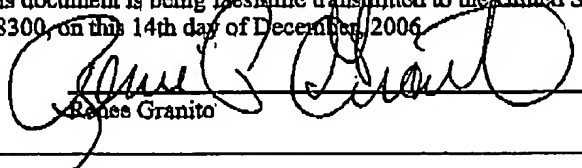
DOCKET NO: 2002-030-01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Stanley W. Stone
Serial No: 10/687,023
Confirmation No: 9153
Filed: October 16, 2003
For: WAFER HANDLER METHOD AND SYSTEM
Examiner: Charles A. Fox
Art Unit: 3652

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office to fax number 571-273-8300, on the 14th day of December, 2006.


Renee Granito

Mail Stop: Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

This is in response to the final Office Action mailed November 14, 2006. Applicant is filing this response within two months of the mailing date of the Action and believes no extension of time fee is required. However, Applicant conditionally petitions for an extension of time to provide for the possibility that the need for such a petition has been inadvertently overlooked. As provided, please charge Deposit Account No. 50-0896 for any fee.

Please amend the application as follows.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 8 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.